Claims

1.-10. (cancelled)

11. (new) A web server comprising software modules, wherein a first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality.

12. (new) The web server according to claim 11, further comprising a connection to a communication network.

13. (new) The web server according to claim 12, wherein the communication network is the Internet.

14. (new) The web server according to claim 11, wherein Internet protocols are provided for communicating between the software modules and for communicating between the software modules and components outside of the web server.

15. (new) The web server according to claim 12, wherein Internet protocols are provided for communicating between the software modules and for communicating between the software modules and components outside of the web server.

16. (new) The web server according to claim 11, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

17. (new) The web server according to claim 12, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

18. (new) The web server according to claim 14, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

19. (new) The web server according to claim 11, wherein the first software module has a connection to an industrial automation system.

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20. (new) The web server according to claim 12, wherein the first software module has a connection to an industrial automation system.

21. (new) The web server according to claim 14, wherein the first software module has a connection to an industrial automation system.

22. (new) The web server according to claim 16, wherein the first software module has a connection to an industrial automation system.

23. (new) The web server according to claim 11, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the Internet via a firewall.

24. (new) The web server according to claim 11, wherein the web server is connected via a communication network to a web browser as a control and monitoring system.

25. (new) The web server according to claim 12, wherein the web server is connected via a communication network to a web browser as a control and monitoring system.

26. (new) The web server according to claim 14, wherein the web server is connected via a communication network to a web browser as a control and monitoring system.

27. (new) The web server according to claim 11, wherein the web server has a real-time operating system.

28. (new) An automation system comprising a web server, wherein the web server comprises software modules, wherein a first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality.

29. (new) A computer program product comprising a web server, wherein the web server comprises software modules, wherein a

first software module comprises a first mechanism for
implementing an automation functionality.